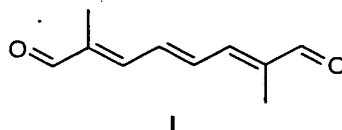


A process for preparing 2,7-dimethylocta-2,4,6-trienedial

Abstract

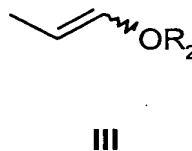
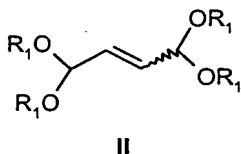
- 5 The present invention relates to an improved process for preparing 2,7-dimethylocta-2,4,6-trienedial of the formula I,



by

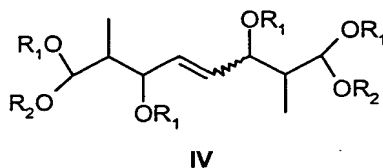
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- a) double enol ether condensation of a butenedial bisacetal of the formula II with an enol ether of the formula III,



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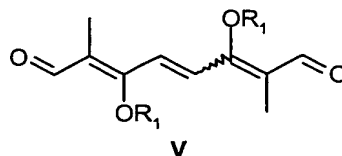
in the presence of a Lewis acid catalyst to give a condensation product of the formula IV,



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where the radicals R₁ and R₂ in formulae II to IV are independently of one another C₁-C₆-alkyl;

- 25 b) hydrolysis of the acetal groups of IV by adding an aqueous acid to form the dialdehyde of the formula V;



d) crystallization of I from the reaction mixture,

Wherein process steps a) to d) are carried out in the presence of an inert, water-
5 immiscible organic solvent.